

COBB COUNTY
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
[CDBG] PROGRAM
APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS
2009



1. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

A. HUD EXPENDITURE REQUIREMENTS

1. Each Program Year, Cobb County must expend at least 70% of its CDBG funds to benefit primarily low and moderate income persons. Each individual non-housing CDBG project must benefit primarily low and moderate income persons [at least 51% of the persons served by each project must have total household incomes that do not exceed 80% of median household income for metropolitan Atlanta, as depicted in the CDBG Income Table. All housing activities funded with CDBG funds must serve 100% low and moderate income persons.
2. By October 31 of each Program Year, Cobb County must have expended enough of its CDBG grant funds in its Letter Of Credit [LOC] so that no more than 1.5 times its most recent CDBG grant and any unexpended Program Income remains in the Letter Of Credit.

B. ELIGIBLE AND INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

Applications may be submitted for a number of different eligible activities permitted under the CDBG regulations [24 CFR Part 570], and as implemented by Cobb County. The eligible activities are further described in the **Community Development Block Grant Guide to National Objectives and Eligible Activities for Entitlement Communities, August 1998**. [Copies are available, at no cost, from the Cobb County CDBG office.]

1. Examples of Eligible Projects [24 CFR 570.201]:
 - a. Acquisition of Real Property for a CDBG Eligible-Activity;
 - b. Acquisition, Construction, Reconstruction, Rehabilitation of Public Facilities and Improvements, [Including Equipment that is Permanently Affixed to the Facility];
 - c. General Public Facilities [Excludes General Government Buildings such as City Halls, Police Stations, etc.];
 - d. Senior Citizens Centers;
 - e. Youth Centers;
 - f. Centers for Persons with Disabilities;
 - g. Parks;
 - h. Homeless Shelters;
 - i. Battered Spouse Shelters;
 - j. Health Centers;
 - k. Streets, Sidewalks, Drainage, Water and Sewer – for Neighborhoods;
 - l. Public Services – Purchase of Capital Equipment

2. HUD RESTRICTIONS ON PUBLIC SERVICES:

- (1) Must be a new service or an increase in current services to eligible CDBG clients;
- (2) Not more than 15% of the County's CDBG funds [total of grant and program income funds] can be expended by the County in a Program Year.

3. INELIGIBLE CDBG ACTIVITIES [24 CFR 570, SECTION 207]

- (1) Assistance Used for the Acquisition, Construction, Rehabilitation or Improvements to Building/Facilities Used for the General Conduct of Government, Except for the Removal of Architectural Barriers.
- (2) General Government Expenses
- (3) Political Activities such as Engaging in Partisan Political Activities
- (4) Operating and Maintenance Expenses
- (5) New Housing Construction



4. MAXIMUM PERIOD TO COMPLETE A COBB COUNTY PROJECT

1. 2009 Maximum Project Period – **PUBLIC FACILITY PROJECTS:**
January 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010 [18 months]
July 1, 2010 – January 31, 2011 [18 months]
2. 2009 Maximum Project Period – **PUBLIC SERVICES and HOUSING PROJECTS:**
January 1, 2009 – March 31, 2010 [15 months]
April 1, 2010 – July 31, 2011 [15 months]

5. REIMBURSEMENTS

Cobb County does not advance funds under the CDBG, HOME, or ESG Programs. Cobb County utilizes a **reimbursement only** method for all financial transactions.

6. CONSOLIDATED PLAN

All proposed CDBG Program activities must address one of the Goals and Priority Objectives in the Cobb County Consolidated Plan, as indicated below:

- **INCREASE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR LOW TO MODERATE INCOME PERSONS;**
- **ELIMINATE SUBSTANDARD HOUSING FOR LOW TO MODERATE INCOME INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES;**
- **INCREASE HOUSING OPTIONS FOR HOMELESS AND NEAR HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES;**
- **INCREASE HOUSING AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES WITH SPECIAL NEEDS;**
- **INCREASE CAPACITY OF PUBLIC FACILITIES AND PUBLIC SERVICES TO IMPROVE THE SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT OF LOW AND MODERATE INCOME INDIVIDUALS.**

